

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNGA, SHUM

SUBJECT: 32ND UNGA:THIRD COMMITTEE/TORTURE ITEM

REF: (A) USUN 3890, (B) USUN 4117

1. TAKING ACCOUNT OF FULL AND VERY USEFUL REPORTING FROM
USDEL IN REFTELS AND PREVIOUS ON EXTENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS
RE DRAFT RESOLUTION ON TORTURE, DEPT CONSIDERS THAT
PRIMARY OBJECTIVE NOW MUST BE TO ASSURE ADOPTION OF DUTCH
DRAFT RESOLUTION. QUESTIONNAIRE DEVICE EMPLOYED IN DUTCH
DRAFT, TOGETHER WITH ITS ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF IMPORTANT
ACTIVITY RE TORTURE BEING CARRIED ON BY SUBCOMMISSION ON
PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES
(GENEVA'S 7926) GOES A LONG WAY TOWARDS MEETING OVERALL
U.S. OBJECTIVE WHICH HAS BEEN TO MOVE FROM THE DRAFTING
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OF GENERALIZED DECLARATORY INSTRUMENTS TO A FOCUS UPON
THE ACTUAL SITUATION WORLDWIDE.

2. BECAUSE OF OUR CONCERN THAT MAXIMUM SUPPORT BE GAINED
FOR DUTCH PROPOSAL, WHICH WILL BE COMPETING WITH SWEDISH
CONVENTION PROPOSAL, DEPT HAS CONCLUDED THAT U.S. DRAFT
RESOLUTION, WHICH USDEL REPORTS HAS LITTLE CHANCE OF BEING

ADOPTED BY THIS GA (REF. B) SHOULD NOT BE FORMALLY
CIRCULATED. U.S. PROPOSAL OBVIOUSLY SOUGHT TO MAKE TOO

MUCH PROGRESS TOO QUICKLY IN THE DIRECTION
OF EVENTUALLY IDENTIFYING THOSE GOVERNMENTS WHICH PRACTICE
OR CONDONE TORTURE. IMPORTANT FEATURE OF DUTCH PROPOSAL
IS THAT IT SETS IN MOTION AT SLOWER PACE UNGA ACTIONS
WHICH EVENTUALLY SHOULD ACCOMPLISH OUR OBJECTIVE AND AT
THE SAME TIME SERVE AS PRESSURE POINT ON GOVERNMENTS TO
MOVE AWAY FROM TORTURE PRACTICES.

3. CONSEQUENTLY, USDEL IN ITS STATEMENT ON TORTURE ITEM
SHOULD EXPRESS OUR GRATIFICATION AT ALMOST UNIVERSAL
INTEREST AND CONCERN OVER TORTURE PROBLEM WHICH HAS
BECOME EVIDENT DURING THE EXTENSIVE ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS
WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE ON POSSIBLE DRAFT RESOLUTIONS.
STATEMENT SHOULD NOTE THAT NOT ONLY WOULD ADOPTION OF THE
DUTCH PROPOSAL BE A SIGNIFICANT STEP IN A UNITED NATIONS
EFFORT TO COPE WITH THE TORTURE PROBLEM, BUT THE INITIA-
TIVES PROPOSED BOTH BY SWEDEN AND INDIA COULD LIKEWISE
PLAY AN IMPORTANT PART IN A COORDINATED UN EFFORT.
USDEL THEREFORE SHOULD EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR ALL THREE
RESOLUTIONS.

4. USDEL AUTHORIZED TO CO-SPONSOR DUTCH RESOLUTION. VANCE

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